

Message Text

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70

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 ERDA-05 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 CIEP-01

COME-00 DODE-00 EB-07 FPC-01 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-06 SAM-01 OES-06

SP-02 SS-15 STR-04 TRSE-00 ACDA-07 FEA-01 /100 W

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R 122045Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY ASUNCION

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7833

INFO AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES

AMEMBASSY LA PAZ

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ASUNCION 2865

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EALR, ENRG, PA

SUBJ: ESSO'S FIRST WELL PROVES DRY

REF: ECONOMIC ALERT LIST LA 76-003

1. DESPITE A PROMISING BEGINNING, ESSO'S FIRST FULL-SCALE WELL BEING DRILLED IN BOQUERON PROVINCE NEAR FILADELPHIA PROVED DRY AND THE COMPANY ORDERED WORK STOPPED ON JULY 4 AFTER REACHING THE PLANNED DEPTH OF 4,789 METERS. ESSO OFFICIALS ARE STILL UNCERTAIN IF OR WHEN ANOTHER WELL WILL BE DRILLED. PRESENT PLANS ARE TO RESTUDY INFORMATION AT HAND BEFORE MAKING A DECISION. ACCORDING TO THE CONCESSION CONTRACT, ESSO HAS AT LEAST A YEAR BEFORE IT WILL BE REQUIRED TO START DRILLING A SECOND WELL.

2. ALTHOUGH OTHER CONCESSIONNAIRES ARE CONTINUING EXPLORATORY WORK, NONE OF THEM IS YET AT THE DRILLING STAGE. THE CLOSEST IS TEXACO. THE COMPANY, WHICH HAS JUST BROUGHT IN MARATHON OIL AS A PARTNER, HAS

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RECENTLY INTENSIFIED ITS EXPLORATORY WORK. HOWEVER,

NO DRILLING CAN BE EXPECTED UNTIL MID 1977.

3. FAILURE OF ESSO WELL WILL NOT INFLUENCE TEXACO
PROGRAM SINCE TEXACO CONCESSION IS ON BORDER WITH
BOLIVIA AND HAS SIMILAR GEOLOGICAL FORMATION. LOCATION
OF ESSO'S DRY WELL IS CONTINUATION OF THE GEOLOGICAL
FORMATION OF ARGENTINE OIL FIELD.

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Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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Disposition Authority: CunninFX
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